WorkLaw Society Constitution

ARTICLE I — NAME, PURPOSE, MEMBERSHIP

Section 1
The name of this organization shall be the WorkLaw Society.

Section 2
The purpose of the WorkLaw Society is to promote awareness within the Law School community of legal and social issues affecting work, workers, and the workplace by:

A. Fostering discussion within the Law School community concerning important issues affecting labor and employment law and the workplace
B. Creating and maintaining a network of attorneys and other professionals for the exchange of ideas and experiences and to promote employment opportunities in the areas of labor and employment law
C. Educating the community of their workplace right through public outreach programs
D. Hosting speakers and other events concerning labor and employment issues
E. Promoting the development of the legal skills necessary for successful careers in labor and employment law
F. Providing support for the Robert F. Wagner National Labor and Employment Moot Court Team and seeking out other opportunities for students to gain skills through interscholastic competitions
G. Working with alumni to provide financial support to students and to the school in order to enhance law student education in the area of labor and employment law and to ensure that the Pennsylvania State University Dickinson School of Law graduates students whose practices and work will be at the forefront of the important issues confronting our country

Section 3
All students enrolled at Pennsylvania State University Dickinson School of Law with an interest in labor and employment law are welcome as members.

ARTICLE II — DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Section 1
The Board shall be the governing body of the WorkLaw Society. It shall have the power to vote to formulate policies, oversee WorkLaw Society functions, and exercise all functions that are necessary for the execution of this Constitution.

Section 2
The Board shall be composed of:

A. President
B. Vice President – University Park
C. Vice President – Carlisle
D. Treasurer
E. Secretary

Section 3
The Board shall:

A. Meet when necessary to discuss WorkLaw Society issues and concerns
B. Plan a schedule of events for Spring and Fall Semesters
C. Establish and maintain committees
D. Resolve emergency situations as they arise
Section 4
The duties of the President are as follows:

A. Serve as the Chief Executive officer of and spokesman for the WorkLaw Society
B. Set the date and time of WorkLaw Society meetings
C. Set the agenda for WorkLaw Society meetings
D. Attend SBA meetings as the representative of the WorkLaw Society
E. Review and approve budget proposals
F. Have authority to sign checks on the behalf of the WorkLaw Society

Section 5
The duties of the Vice Presidents are as follows:

A. Serve as liaisons between their respective campuses and the WorkLaw Society
B. Assume the duties of the President in the occasion of the President’s absence
C. Perform other reasonable duties at the request of the President

Section 6
The duties of the Treasurer are as follows:

A. Serve as chairperson of the Budget committee
B. Attend SBA meetings at which budget proposals are submitted
C. Present a budget report to the President at the end of the Fall and Spring semester
D. Have authority to sign checks on the behalf of the WorkLaw Society
E. Have authority to establish and maintain a bank account on the behalf of the WorkLaw Society
F. Perform other reasonable duties at the request of the President

Section 7
The duties of the Secretary are as follows:

A. Record the minutes of each WorkLaw Society meeting
B. Make the meeting minutes available to WorkLaw Society members
C. Establish and maintain records and files as necessary
D. Alert members of upcoming meetings.
E. Perform other reasonable duties at the request of the President

Section 8
All members of the Board shall have the power to vote.

Section 9
All decisions shall be made by a majority vote of the Board, except where otherwise provided for in this Constitution.

Section 10
Board members shall deliver all materials pertaining to their WorkLaw Society office to their successors.

Section 11
No rules or policies shall be adopted that are inconsistent with this Constitution.

ARTICLE III — COMMITTEES

Section 1
The Board shall establish and maintain the following standing committees:

A. Web site
B. Budget
C. Election

Section 2
The Board shall establish other committees as necessary.

Section 3
Committees are to be chaired by WorkLaw Society members who volunteer for the position. If more than one member wishes to chair a committee the President shall have the power to appoint co-chairs or to select the committee chair. If no members volunteer to chair a committee the President shall have the authority to designate a chairperson.

Section 4
Committees shall be composed of WorkLaw Society members who volunteer to participate in the committee. If no members volunteer the President shall have the power to designate committee members.

Section 5
The duties of the committees are as follows:

A. Regularly report progress and activities at WorkLaw Society meetings
B. Meet as necessary to accomplish the purpose of the committee

Section 6
The duties of the Web site Committee are as follows:

A. Create and maintain a Web site accessible to students
B. Regularly update the Web site with regards WorkLaw Society activities and other necessary information

Section 7
The duties of the Budget Committee are as follows:

A. Prepare budget proposals for presentation at SBA meetings
B. Formulate budgets for the Fall and Spring semester
C. Present the Fall and Spring semester budgets at WorkLaw Society meetings

Section 8
The duties of the Elections Committee are as follows:

A. Set a date in the Spring Semester for Board positions for the upcoming school year.
B. Conduct an election by secret ballot for each Board position.

ARTICLE IV — MEETINGS

Section 1
All action of the Board shall be conducted at general meetings, or meetings convened for a special purpose.

Section 2
The WorkLaw Society is to meet twice a month at dates and times scheduled by the President.

Section 3
The members of the WorkLaw Society will be notified of upcoming meetings at least five days in advance by a general e-mail sent by the Secretary.
Section 4
The President shall notify the members of WorkLaw Society of the agenda at least one day in advance of any meeting.

Section 5
All meetings require majority of the Board to be present to establish a quorum. If a quorum is not available no voting may occur at the meeting and any votes conducted are void.

Section 6
Meetings are open to all students, members and non-members, and all persons in attendance shall have the right to speak to any issue.

ARTICLE V — ELECTIONS

Section 1
General elections for every Board position are to be conducted in the second half of every Spring Semester. The Elections committee shall set the date of the election and supervise the election.

Section 2
The Elections Committee shall announce the date of the election before Spring Break.

Section 3
Candidates for all Board positions shall nominate themselves at least 2 weeks before the date of the election.

Section 4
Third-year students shall not vote in the election.

Section 5
Elections shall be conducted by secret ballot. The chair of the elections committee shall count the votes.

ARTICLE VI — VACANCY AND REMOVAL

Section 1
A vacancy shall be deemed to occur if:

   A. A Board member resigns from office
   B. A Board member is removed from office
   C. A Board member is no longer a student at the law school

Section 2
In the event of vacancy in the President’s office, a majority of the officers shall select one of the Vice Presidents to assume the office of President.

Section 3
A substantial violation of any provision of this Constitution or a neglect or refusal to perform official duties and responsibilities shall be grounds for removal.

Section 4
The Board has the sole power to remove other Board members.

Section 5
Board members may be removed at the motion of another Board member. The removal of a Board member requires a three-fourths majority. The accused shall not vote or be counted in determining the outcome of the removal vote.
Section 6
If the President is subject to a charge for removal, then until the matter is resolved, the Vice President from the campus where President presides shall assume the office of President.

Section 7
The President, with the consent of a majority of the Board, shall fill vacancies on the Board.

ARTICLE VII — AMENDMENT

Section 1
This Constitution may be amended by a 4-step process: proposal, promulgation, vote, and distribution of the amended document.

Section 2
Proposals may be made in 2 ways:

A. By an ad hoc committee designated by the Board to initiate amendment
B. By a petition signed by 20 percent of the WorkLaw Society members

Section 3
Any proposal shall be promulgated by the Secretary to all the members of the WorkLaw Society.

Section 4
To be adopted a proposal must obtain a two-thirds majority of the WorkLaw Society members vote.

Section 5
All WorkLaw Society members present at the meeting shall have the right to vote.

Section 6
If this Constitution is amended the Secretary shall provide an updated copy to all WorkLaw Society members.

ARTICLE VIII — RATIFICATION

Section 1
Upon ratification by two-thirds of the WorkLaw Society members present at the meeting, this Constitution shall be effective.